

What Goes On
 Tues., Aug. 1, 8 p.m. City Council Worksession.
 Rehabilitation of Parkway Municipal Bldg.
 Wed., Aug. 2, 7 p.m. Crime Prevention Committee Meeting, Police Station.
 7 p.m. Lakewood Residents Meeting on Stormwater Drainage Project, Police Station.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

News Review
Office Hours
 Monday - 2-4 p.m.
 - 8-10 p.m.
 Tuesday - 8-10 p.m.
 16 Parkway
 Deadline for copy ad advertising is 10 p.m., Tuesday.
 Deadline for copy and advertising is 10 p.m., Tuesday.

Volume 58, Number 36

P.O. Box 68, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0068

Thursday, July 27, 1995

An Independent Newspaper

GREENBELT News Review

Beat the Rush

Please give us your copy on Mondays or at least by noon on Tuesdays. We are trying not to get swamped Tuesday nights.

Volume 60, Number 51

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Editors Recall Highlights of 50 Year Partnership with Printer

by Mary Lou Williamson

With this August 3 issue, the five-decade era of the Allen family as printers of the Greenbelt Co-operator and then the News Review will come to a close. The family has been associated with the paper longer than any member of the current staff.

Linotype machines with their noisy rhythms; racks of magazines, the large metal cases holding the little forms for each letter or character; drawers of different type faces for hand-set headlines and ads; the smell of printer's ink; and the job presses running in the other room — I will miss these sights and sounds of the print shop after 30 years of weekly Thursday morning page-proofing sessions. (Thursday morning is the editor's last shot at getting everything right for each week.)

I have known four generations of the Herbert Allen family — professional printers working with dedication to help provide Greenbelt with an outstanding newspaper. They have been my teachers as I learned my job as it should be done. I have watched the children grow up, marry and have their own children. The young ones were brought to the print shop in playpens in the front office or later kept securely behind gates. I watched a caring family keep an increasingly cau-

tious eye on their aging father and grandfather, so he could stay busy during the last years of his life in the print shop he loved.

For most of those Thursday mornings Mrs. Allen or her son Red (Herbert Jr.) would be sitting at the linotype, setting the previous night's corrections — one line at a time, little mats falling from the magazine to fill the line, the hot lead pouring into the mold. These must cool before you can pick them up. Then each line is inserted into the stories on galleys. Occasionally the line is put in the wrong place or a new error is made. It's up to the editor to fix those problems on Thursday morning and fill the space if an ad has been dummied into the paper twice or rewrite the last lines of a story that is too long to fit in its space.

Red and Mrs. Allen, and more recently Red's daughter Dale and her husband, Bill, have put together the pages we had dummied the night before and run off a proof for the editors. The Allens work quietly and effi-

ciently, saving their chatter for later. One will drop a hint now and then that if the editors would stop talking, we'd all get finished earlier. (No one eats lunch before all the pages are ready to be printed, usually around 1 or 1:30. It can be as late as 2:30 or 3. Those are the weeks the printed papers don't get back to Greenbelt until the next day, causing all sorts of grief.)

The three linotype machines each hold three magazines. Generally two have 8-point body type for stories. The other has the larger 10-point type for lead paragraphs and photo captions. When you can't find Mrs. Allen, now 83 but with almost no gray hair, she's apt to be climbing up the back of the eight-foot tall linotype with a screw driver, fixing something that is stuck. She's very good at setting type, her spelling is better than the editor's and she knows just how things ought to be done.

She has been setting the copy of Greenbelt's story for 50 years. She knows a lot. When piqued, she used to add pithy comments or questions at the end of a story. She expected the proofers to notice the added sentence or two and delete them.

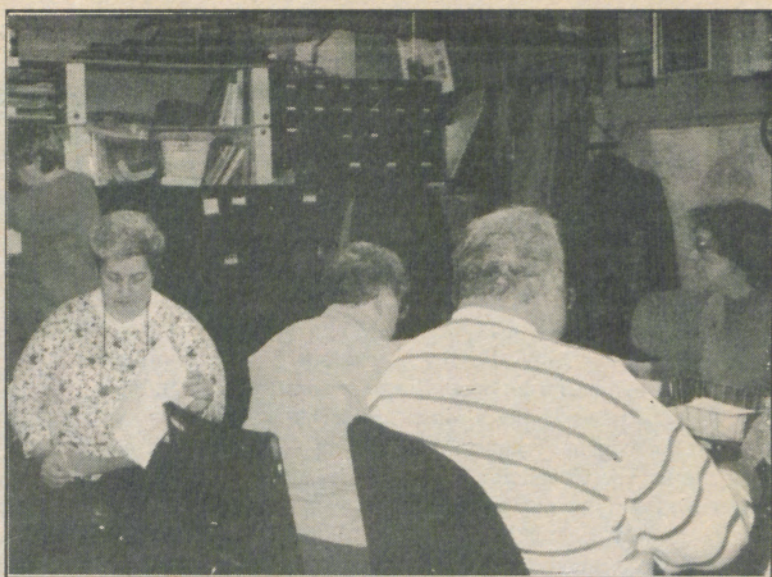
Beginnings

When the staff of the Greenbelt paper determined that their experiment in journalism would be permanent, they wanted it to look like newspaper. They went to the Prince George's Post to have it printed. That was 54 years ago, August 22, 1941. Herbert Allen was the young pressman. After the war Allen set up his own print shop in the basement of an old Hyattsville office building. The Co-operator, as the News Review was then known, followed him. The paper left briefly in the 50's to try photo-offset but the staff didn't like the results and returned to Allen.

Over the years the family grew and the newspaper and its editors almost became a part of the family too. Allen extended credit to the often faltering paper during the early years, much as one might to one's offspring. In later years, as the paper gained in financial stability, our business manager would adjust our payment schedule occasionally to help the Allens meet some particular emergency.

Allen, a shy and unassuming gentleman, liked best to run his small job presses, but helped with the News Review when needed. I began my weekly trips to the print shop in 1962. Red's oldest son, who was 8 or 9, spent his days in the shop during

See EDITOR, page 5



Editorial staff labors beneath pipes festooned with cables. Left to right, Barbara Likowski, Eileen Farnham, Bernie McGee, Jim Giese, and editor Mary Lou Williamson.

- photo by Dorothy Sucher

Shock of the Unfamiliar: The News Review Moves

by Dorothy Sucher

Leaving home — that's how it feels. Blinking, mole-like, the staff of the Greenbelt News Review emerges from the dank, subterranean quarters in which we've lurked for so many years, putting out the community's newspaper week after week. Don't ask me exactly how many years, I'm not one of the paper's fact-checkers, I prefer the vague, sweeping statement. It was longer than the 35 years since I joined the paper anyway, around the time when we finally prevailed on the GHI Board, our chivalrous landlords, to install a toilet because most of the editors, myself included, were pregnant. (Before, we used to lumber upstairs and ask Mrs. Greeze if we could puhlease use the bathroom in her apartment ... but oh, that climb in the ninth month.)

High Ceilings

This week the News Review moves into our spacious new quarters in the not-quite-fully-but-kind-a-sorta-open Community Center. We have two humongous windows, flooding the room with an unfamiliar substance known as "sunlight." There will be high ceilings devoid of the water and heating pipes festooned with electric cables, at which we have so often gazed in desperate creative frenzy while trying to find a shorter synonym for "zoning." Our walls will be of a virginal off-white instead of our accustomed pumpkin orange, with traces of the previous coat of green peeping through.

No bank of electric meters labelled "DANGER — HANDS OFF, HIGH VOLTAGE!" No Original Greenbelt refrigerator, last defrosted in 1983, filled with bottles of frozen cranberry juice and peach nectar responsible for the rumor that frozen daiquiris were invented during a slow week at the News Review, and a file box containing frigid coins, part of our honor system for refreshments. (This reminds me that I'm about \$5.00 in arrears and I'd better pay up before the big move.)

Sybaritic Luxury

Will it be possible to put out a paper under conditions like these, or will this sybaritic luxury rot whatever stern moral fibre remains to us, inducing thoughts of spending the winter lounging by the pool of a Florida condo instead of trying to wheedle information out of an evasive police department representative over the telephone? Unpaid, yet?

The week before our move a young man said to me at the New Deal cafe, "I just went down to

the News Review office for the first time to place an ad." He paused, pity in his eyes. "I was shocked," he murmured gently, while the words, "You poor old thing ..." hovered in the air. Perhaps he thought I deserved better, a bit more like Murphy Brown's office.

The young lack grit. They think what's important is to be camera-ready, when what really counts is the fact that our co-op of volunteers has put out the community's newspaper every week without fail for almost 60 years, a record unmatched in the nation. The young are taking



over the world, though, so it's just as well we're moving to quarters that are glossier, a bit more like TV, the current notion of reality. The paper needs new blood, and our sunny office in the Community Center may be less of a shock to systems of the young.

And hey, I'm probably gonna enjoy it myself, once I get over the adjustment.

Grungiest

The News Review once entered a contest for the grungiest office, sponsored by WPGC. Let me tell you we were cocky, but we lost; we're still convinced the judging was rigged.

Over the years our landlord, GHI, has been very good to us. It was a big brother of a co-op supporting a pipsqueak co-op, us, to help insure that Greenbelt would have a newspaper.

Originally our basement space contained storage cupboards for tenants in the building (plus the electric meters and telephone cables), but GHI relocated the cupboards across the hall to make room for us.

Over the years relations were mostly amicable, but about 40 years ago we managed to rile a couple of members of the GHI Board. They declared war and demanded the unthinkable — rent! Was the cause a critical editorial or two? Or was it because the timid wife of one of our most implacable board member foes worked for us as a proofreader and we paid her a member dividend of \$1.00 a week? "The News Review is

See SHOCK, page 5



Mrs. Allen at the linotype she handles so deftly.

- photo by Sharon Natoli/August 3, 1995

EDITORIALS

Thanks and Farewell

When our readers actually see these words, your News Review staffers, all our editorial possessions and our news archives, dating from our beginning almost 59 years ago as The Cooperator, will have moved into our new office in the Community Center building. But these words themselves have been processed in our old basement quarters at 15 Parkway, proofread there, and formatted for this, our last edition as a guest of Greenbelt Homes.

All of our present staff members have known no other location, though the paper was first housed, under the auspices of the federal government, which ran the town, in another basement on Parkway. After the town was purchased by the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation (the original name for GHI), we were offered the basement we have continued to occupy through all these years.

A couple of us remember what it was like. Unusable as a rental property, since it housed all the electrical meter boxes for the apartments above, it also contained

storage lockers for many of the residents. It was only a dingy basement — cement floor, cinderblock walls, and a cement ceiling so crudely formed that it carries to this day the imprint of the wooden framing that held it up until the cement hardened. We didn't need much space in those days — the late 1950s. And we did not complain. Given the state of our finances — teetering always on the verge of disaster — we were grateful for rent-free space.

We extend our thanks to the many residents of 15 Parkway who have put up with us over the years.

As our readers know, this paper has survived during all these years through the work of a staff of volunteers. But that long history might never have been possible if this team of volunteers had not had a place to carry on our work. For their generosity, we salute the membership of the cooperative housing corporation, our truly kind landlords. We hope they will come to see us in our new space.

January 8, 1996

The Woodlands & July 4th

Greenbelt has a long history of valuing and preserving open space. In 1984 citizens overwhelmingly approved borrowing the funds necessary to purchase over 100 acres of woodlands — land that city taxpayers continue to pay for, without complaining, in annual installments. It is easy to see why Greenbelters are so proud of the pockets of green hidden throughout this city. They provide play areas, homes for birds and animals, help clean the air and dampen noise. We rejoice in their beauty.

Despite the city's continuous record or support for acquiring and protecting its open space, council now is seriously considering a proposal to establish some form of a "conservation easement" that would take control of the land away from future councils and the citizens ...

We do not see how the city, or its citizens, would benefit from giving away its rights to property that it worked hard to purchase. The city has long been committed to preserving this last piece of the original green belt — a goal we heartily support. However, we see no need for an outside body to oversee the land. To us, ceding such control over the land shows a profound distrust for democracy and the citizens of this proud city ...

We have just celebrated another Independence Day. By putting their faith in the people, our founding leaders enabled our nation's citizens to form the best and strongest democracy on earth. We hope that the celebration reminded our present city leaders where they must ultimately put their own faith and trust.

July 17, 1997



The Editor at her desk. Although many staff members write editorials, Mary Lou Williamson has presided over the editorial process at the News Review for 25 years, almost as long as the paper's 34 previous editors combined.

- photo by Judy Nelson



"THIS REMINDS ME... THE NEWS REVIEW IS PLEADING FOR NEW BLOOD ON ITS STAFF!"

Free Speech Outweighs Running Candidates' Gauntlet

Although the city attorney has advised that it would be difficult to defend the city's requirement that candidates and campaign workers stay 300 feet away from a polling place, three members of the city council wish to retain this requirement. Advocates for the restriction say that voters should not have to run a gauntlet of office seekers and their flacks. Opponents say that the requirement denies candidates and their supporters freedom of speech and a final chance to give voters information. Also they believe it gives an advantage to incumbents.

In our view, the problem does

not merit such an extreme solution, which has effectively eliminated campaigning at the polls. Although weaving through the throng of poll workers can be annoying, the current restriction does seem to us to bridge candidate's rights to free speech.

The News Review has been to the U.S. Supreme Court on our constitutional right to freedom of the press and that court upheld our right. We can do no less than defend First Amendment rights for others, even though they may be politicians. The city council should take action quickly to rescind the 300-foot limit.

September 2, 1993

Those Signs Again

What would it be like to have a Greenbelt election without a sign controversy? This year, the eighth candidate, Council Nedd II, erected signs on city property next to the signs placed there for other candidates. Although we are not aware that his signs differed in any way from the other campaign signs put at these sites, the city removed them. The city said that Mr. Nedd had not followed the city policy on signs. He had not given the signs to the city to put up, but had done

it himself, and had not paid the required 50 dollar fee.

We are troubled by the city government's involvement with campaign signs. Freedom of speech is a fundamental constitutional right and the courts generally frown on unreasonable restrictions. In fairness to challengers and to avoid extensive litigation to defend restricting this basic freedom, we urge the new council to review the sign policy carefully.

November 4, 1993

Cal and Otilie

On the same day that Cal Ripken proved that he is the most enduring, reliable and consistent baseball player ever, Otilie Van Allen came to work as a volunteer for the Greenbelt News Review, something she has been doing for many years. She has shown her consistency and dedication in doing all sorts of good things for Greenbelt — longer than Ripken has played pro-baseball.

Cal could have found good reason to miss a ballgame here and there. And even though he achieved recognition of the baseball world by appearing in his

2,121st consecutive game, he was back at work for the next game.

Like Cal, Otilie Van Allen could have rested on her well deserved laurels at 91. But she didn't. She came to work at the News Review on Wednesday, as she always does. She just keeps going, and going.

Cal and Otilie are steady workers and doers who have achieved recognition and honor within their lifetimes. We are delighted.

To all the Cals and Otilies out there, we say thanks for everything you have done to make this world a little bit better.

September 14, 1995

News Review

Anniversary Issue

Most of the stories and letters in this special 60th Anniversary issue of the News Review have been shortened. In some cases only the first paragraph has been kept.

The intent has been to give the reader a panoramic overview of the paper's last five years, and to catch some of the flavor of Greenbelt during that period.

Included are a few of the stories and editorials we like and some letters we think you will enjoy re-reading.

The following staff members worked on this special edition: Tom Chapman, Eileen Farnham, Al Geiger, Jim Giese, Sandra Lange, Barbara Likowski, Nick Mydra, Judy Nelson, Bonnie Beck O'Brien, Eileen Peterson, Carolyn Price, Jane Rissler, Dorothy Sucher, and Mary Lou Williamson.

SOMEBODY GOOJED

The birthday celebration for Delegate Joan Pitkin yesterday was incorrectly advertised in last week's News Review. Since the purpose of the event was to raise campaign funds, it was not free. In preparing the ad we omitted both the price of the tickets and the phone number to call for information.

The News Review apologizes to Delegate Pitkin and to those who went to the celebration believing it was free.

May 12, 1994

Thanks

On Saturday night, January 27, I parked my car on Ridge Road opposite 6 court. I heard a tinkling noise as I got out of my car, but ignored it. Sunday morning when I went back out to my car I realized I didn't have my car key. That tinkling noise from the previous night was the sound of my car key hitting the street. I looked all over the street and under the car. Just as I was about to give up looking, I noticed the car key under the windshield wiper on my car. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you. Whoever you are! Greenbelt neighbors are the greatest!

February 15, 1996

An Apology

I would like to apologize for being such a scofflaw for all the years I've been driving. You see, I had fallen into the bad habit of using my turn signals whenever I intended to turn or change lanes. I thought that, perhaps, other drivers didn't signal because they were too busy or forgot or maybe their cars are new models that don't have turn signals. But after seeing even police cars and ambulances fail to use their turn signals (during non-emergency conditions), I realized that there must be a local law making it illegal to use a turn signal, and that I had been breaking the law all these years! I apologize again for my ignorance, and promise to make an unsignaled turn for the better.

(crotchety driver-in-training)

May 25, 1995

Loves the Paper

I love this paper! It reminds me of what my hometown newspaper used to be like when I was growing up. (I don't think they have a paper now.)

February 29, 1996

Without Merit

The front page article of the News Review, dated February 14, "GEAC Discusses WSSC Fees, Roaming Students" is inaccurate, full of innuendos and conclusions without merit or fact.

March 1993

Independent Paper? Hogwash!

There you go again, News Review. At the end of a very eloquent letter last week, Wyatt Miller, regretting the urbanization of Greenbelt, you just had to once again jump to the defense of the politicians. You were wrong to do this and wrong in your facts.

Perhaps Miller has struck a nerve in his letter. How often have we all heard the phrases "quality development" and "increased tax base" in recent years to support high density development?

Perhaps, News Review, you are still sensitive about the Sunrise development, in which the City Council some years back voted 4-1 to approve it.

When will you stop taking up for the politicians? If they feel a need to defend themselves, let them put their own pens to paper, and put their own reputations on the line. By shielding them from public criticism you are undermining an important part of the democratic process.

If you are not careful, News Review, you will lose your credibility in this town among a wider and wider readership.

You call yourself an independent newspaper. Hogwash. That is true only in a technical sense. You are the mouthpiece of the political establishment.

March 7, 1996

Thanks

I wanted to write to tell you how much my family and I enjoy the Greenbelt News Review.

We have lived here since January and we wait anxiously every week for the newspaper to arrive. We then pore through it page by page.

You and your staff have done an excellent job assessing the needs and wants of the community. The Greenbelt News Review provides useful information about matters affecting Greenbelt and its residents. My favorite section is the Community Events page. I enjoy knowing what is happening in the area and seeing what fun I can have right here! My family and I always find something to do that doesn't require a horrible drive (the Beltway is just as bad or worse on week-ends!).

It is truly a pleasure to live in Greenbelt and to be able to count on the News Review every week. I'd also like to thank the residents of Greenbelt. Your newspaper's contribution to the quality of life in the DC Metro area is second only to the warmth and generosity of Greenbelt's residents. Thank you for welcoming us so heartily!

You will find enclosed my voluntary subscription. Thank you and keep of the good work!

June 30, 1994

Oops!

In the January 27 edition of the News Review, it was erroneously reported that I was re-elected as secretary of GEAC. Please let me clarify that Dan Lowery from Greenwood Village served as GEAC's secretary last year. Dan did an excellent job for GEAC and we will miss his dedication and support.

February 10, 1994

False Assumptions

Thanks for a balanced article on diversity. It is hard to imagine a more open and tolerant community than Greenbelt.

I hail from The Big Apple — where race relations were relatively harmonious. We didn't do a tax-sponsored "education" program to teach the obvious: hey, there's a lot of different folks out here! And guess what? Most got along.

Is anyone kept out of civic affairs in Greenbelt? Are there barriers in place preventing people from taking part in events? And, is there not every conceivable educational tool available — already — to inform newcomers and long-term residents about each other's "diverseness"?

There's more going on in our city than in most places. That's real tribute to civic activism. Racism isn't the problem here. Rising crime is.

Nowhere else on Earth have so many different groups thrived — and prospered — than in America. And our historic community, still a tranquil island in the midst of a troubled (and crime-ridden) sea, was founded on certain principles worth reflecting upon today. Tolerance was foremost among them.

February 20, 1997

Remember Fala

I hope that in selecting a name for the park for dogs, the city will look to the tradition of commemorating the Roosevelts where appropriate. If I can assure you that I mean no disrespect to Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt with that statement, I will proceed to offer the following suggestion. Since we memorialize him with our Roosevelt Center, and her with Eleanor Roosevelt High School, it seems a perfect choice to name the dog park after Fala, their black scotty.

The reference librarian informed that the dog's full name was Murray of Fala Hill, and that when reporters would see Fala, they knew that the president was nearby.

June 13, 1996

New Blood Needed

For many years, the bulk of the reporting for the News Review has been done by a few stalwarts. But these veterans cannot be expected to bear the burden forever. With the 60th Anniversary of the paper coming up, it seems like a good time to sound a clarion call to a younger generation to step forward, join the News Review staff (no experience necessary, just free Tuesday evenings) and help propel the paper into the 21st century!

November 6, 1997

We Get Letters

It Takes a Village

Two weeks ago, my younger son ran out between two cars and smashed into a moving car while playing in our front yard on Woodland Way. My six-year-old ran into the house screaming that his brother had been hit by a car. It is amazing the amount of thoughts that can go through your mind in split-seconds So when the very kind policeman arrived responding to my neighbor's 911 call, I was holding a screaming child with what seemed to be (and thankfully turned out to be) just a smashed and bloody lip. Pvt. Barrett got Nick's attention by talking about his own run-in with a baseball bat when he was about Nick's age. And Cpl. Schinner kept his attention while I gathered my wallet, my shoes, and my wits so we could go on our first ambulance ride.

I know we have a wonderful community. I grew up here and brought my boys here to live so they could have the same experience that I feel so grateful to have had. But it always feels good to have one's ideas — ideals — decisions — substantiated. For it seems that even our Police Department feels as I do that "it takes a village to raise a child."

Thank you.

P.S. Thanks also to the Rescue Squad.

June 6, 1996

Multidimensional

I have been enjoying your less serious approach to City Council, and the inclusion of poetry in the paper. Now if you could start being multidimensional in your editorials, it would be perfect.

December 29, 1994

Clear Winner

Dear Greenbelt Neighbors,

As this is being written, no vote counts are available, but I believe that there is at least one clear winner: the Greenbelt News Review. Its coverage of the city election has been fair and thorough.

November 4, 1993

Newsworthy

I have received the Greenbelt News Review every week since acquiring the Springhill Lake property in 1959, so I consider myself an old time "Greenbelt resident."

I have enjoyed reading your articles for many years and especially the 55th Anniversary issue.

Between the Springhill Lake apartments, the Capital Office Park, and the Greenbelt Marriott Hotel we have contributed our fair share of newsworthy items for the paper. I hope we can continue to do so.

December 10, 1992

Thanks

I also want to publicly thank the Editors and staff of the Greenbelt News Review for providing to all candidates space to answer questions on key issues to the electorate. I believe this opportunity contributed greatly to the electorate's understanding of both the issues and the candidates.

November 4, 1993

News Review Doesn't Get It

The News Review still doesn't get it.

Nearly a year after the 1993 Special Meeting on monthly fees, it still castigates what it sees as "87 disgruntled members" who had petitioned for the meeting. The News Review, as well as some GHI authorities, still prefer to blame members for taking an active role in their cooperative. Where the paper sees disgruntled members, most of us see a large group who protected the community's and their own interest.

The News Review seems to have forgotten that the vote to freeze fees was overwhelming despite the parliamentary antics and legal maneuvering that was much in evidence at the meeting. Even more, the recent elections reinforced the memberships' new approach as those candidates associated with reform and accountability were swept into office, while incumbents were uniformly voted out.

It is time for the entire community to realize that GHI has undergone a major transformation and will not return to its old way of cronyism, unaccountability, and blaming members. We are now on an irreversible path toward fiscal responsibility, service, openness, and accountability.

The News Review can label us "disgruntled" if it wishes; in fact, we represent the democratic majority of GHI.

September 8, 1994

Thanks, Carriers!

I just wanted to congratulate you on not only getting this week's edition finished and printed, but also, "DELIVERED"!

I was quite surprised to find the paper tucked in my storm door and a figure under five feet high, toting a big newspaper bag, trekking along the walk. The small figure was covered from head to toe and I couldn't tell who it was, although I figured it was the News Review carrier. The small figure turned and gave a wave and I waved back. I hope it was the same carrier that I send a Christmas check to, because he/she deserved it.

I didn't get any mail delivery today, but I had the News Review delivered. Any kid who delivers a community newspaper and trudges through snow that's up to his/her thighs ought to be applauded and get his/her picture in the paper.

I hope when this kid is grown there will be others to follow, involved in keeping this city, this state, this country going in times of crisis.

January 18, 1996

Thanks

Thank you for this newspaper. I have recently moved to Greenbelt from Glen Burnie, and your articles, events, everything is very helpful. I have found someone to help around the house (things that I am unable to do), and a TV repair person (my TV went out one week after I moved here). I have gone on a bicycle trip and am volunteering for the Festival.

August 21, 1997

Boomers Respond In Open Letter

Dear Madam Mayor:

Someone produced a video for us containing the contents of the March 13 News Review. (We watched it on TV, because as you may know we boomers don't read.) The video was difficult to hear (that rock music you know), but we managed to make out some comments you apparently made to the Golden Age Club. You said something about boomers growing older (well, don't we all), and how they aren't like today's seniors. There seemed to be some suggestion that we need guidance so that we can adjust to our golden years. (It was hard to hear over the Beatles music.) Did you mention that we also were looking for video games and a place to burn our incense? Could you see about having a "quad room" put in Green Ridge House so we can listen to a little Jefferson Starship? It is nice to know that the city is thinking ahead to our retirement needs. Now if you could only arrange for some "Peace" symbols to be sprayed on the walls that would be great! Also, how about a Friday night protest, you know us boomers love a good counter-culture demonstration. Well, just thought we'd give you something else to think about. You can never plan too far ahead!

March 27, 1997

Northway Enclave

I concur with Louise Wilding, whose letter concerning the condition of Northway appeared in the Greenbelt News Review, October 27.

The residents of Northway have been "hoist on their own petard." They are the ones whose cars will have suspension problems. It is the price they will pay for having created their own enclave.

The street is a first class example of overkill. Beware, fellow Greenbelters! Slow down! Our city fathers could decide that the Northway solution is the right one for all our streets!

November 3, 1994

Doctors Community Hospital
congratulates the
Greenbelt News Review
for 60 years of
keeping the community informed.

Here's to many more years of
journalistic good health!





Ben and Ethel Rosenzweig, taken at a personal care residence where they spent the winter.

- photo by Linda Evans

Ben Rosenzweig — Pioneer, Community Activist — Dies

by Barbara Likowski

Greenbelt pioneer and activist Benjamin Rosenzweig died in his sleep on Monday, March 3. Ben had celebrated his 89th birthday on March 1.

Interest in Co-ops

Ben and his wife Ethel moved into the 4 Court of Crescent Road in 1938, making them one of the pioneer families who were to be the sculptors of this new community. From the very beginning Ben was interested in and instrumental in forming cooperatives and he never lost that interest. In fact during the week before he entered the hospital, he had attended a meeting of the Committee for Senior Citizen Housing, one of the newer co-ops in Greenbelt.

Ben was one of the founders of the Greenbelt Consumer Services (GCS), serving on the board until 1984 when the co-operative gave up its grocery store in Greenbelt; the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, serving as president of the Credit Union board about 35 years; and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI), the housing coop-

erative. He was an early staff member of the Cooperator (previous name for the News Review), and served as a member of the city's Employee Relations Board for 28 years.

Religion was an important part of his life. Mr. Rosenzweig was founder and first president of the Greenbelt Hebrew Congregation. When Mishkan Torah Synagogue was built, "He laid the bricks," his granddaughter Ellen said. When he was 83, he had his second Bar Mitzvah, spending a year in careful preparation for such a special event.

Ben and Ethel celebrated their 65th anniversary three years ago.

In 1991, Ben was named Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen. Presenting the award, Chairman Tom Renahan said "Many have observed that his personal style is seldom quiet and never boring, and he is cantankerous by his own admission. As a true Greenbelter ... he always speaks his mind and lets people know where he stands."

March 6, 1997

Memorial Tree Brings Life Where Death Had Occurred

by James Giese

Approximately 60 family members, friends, city officials and concerned citizens gathered at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Mandan Road on a beautiful autumn Saturday morning to dedicate a maple tree and plaque to the memory of Carlton F. (C.J.) Brown, II, the youth who was struck down

in that area and died of a gunshot wound on May 13. Two other youths were charged with murder in that incident.

C.J.'s mother noted that since her son's death, the corner at which the tree was planted had meant, for her, death. "Now I'll pass this corner and think of my son's life," she said.

November 10, 1994



Thanks the News Review
for sixty years of pleasant reporting
with a community touch!

143 CENTERWAY • GREENBELT, MD 20770 • 301-345-1849

Al Herling An Appreciation

by Dorothy Sucher

Old age shrinks most of us, but Al Herling only grew in stature with the passing years — not physically (he was a small man) but in the qualities of heart and mind that make us most fully human. In time he came to tower over Greenbelt, the community he'd loved and served for 43 years. Not that there was anything imposing about the man; he was accessible, funny, and warm. It was his values that were lofty. He spoke them loud and clear and often at length in fiery oratory, for he was a passionate man who loved to talk. He also lived by them, which is rarer.

Al Herling died on May 31 at the age of 82, and I don't know what we're going to do without him. Until the very end, his wisdom, intellect, energy, and leadership inspired everyone who knew him, although he'd have hastened to deny this. Whenever a complimentary article about him appeared in the News Review, he would say, "That must be about somebody else — not me."

Of course the staff of the News Review couldn't be objective about Al, and didn't try. After all, 30 years ago when a land developer slapped us with a two-million-dollar libel suite, Al had been our savior.

Libel Suit

He was reminiscing about the libel suit a few weeks ago when I paid him a visit. "I went right over to the Skolniks' when I heard about it," he said. "Because I knew they'd be upset." The late Alfred Skolnik, then the paper's publisher, had been named personally in the suit. Al told me he'd immediately called one of the editors of the Washington Post to see if the great metropolitan daily would help in the News Review's defense. Al knew the people at the Post, for he, too, was a journalist and edited a labor newspaper for 24 years. A call came back in an hour: the Post's law firm would represent us "pro bono." After that, Al started raising money for the costs of the suit.

It amazed me that Al, who was so close to death, could still care passionately about

the newspaper. He retained his famous ability to get, as he said "fired up," even if at the end there was only a flicker.

Who could be objective about Al? Not the arts groups for which he endlessly crusaded, like the Prince George's County Arts Council and the Greenbelt Arts Center and the Arts Advisory Committee, all of which he helped found, or the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, on the Board of which he served. Surely not the music department at the University of Maryland, where after his retirement he studied piano with Santiago Rodriguez. When Al gave his three public Birthday Concerts (for his 70th, 75th, and 80th birthdays), part of the money raised went to the university's

Music Scholarship Fund and the rest to some of his other causes.

And certainly not Greenbelt's readers, who are still benefitting from Al's long struggle to bring a fine, modern library to the town.

Al embodied the values of the New Deal, from which he never swerved. He was an unreconstructed liberal, an idealist in an age of marketplace morals, a fighter for the rights of the common man, and an ardent supporter of literature, art, and the Bill of Rights. He believed in protecting the weak from the tyranny of the majority.

Goodbye, Al, and thanks for everything. We know that you're still with us, in our Greenbelt institutions and in our hearts.

June 5, 1997



Al Herling, Greenbelt's 1983 Outstanding Citizen, enjoys his role as Grand Marshall for the Labor Day Parade.

- photo by J. Henson/September 8, 1983



Happy 60th Anniversary
Greenbelt News Review

from

Wisler Construction Company

My Maid

Congratulates the

Greenbelt
News Review

on

60 years
of clean reporting.

Tammy & John

The families

of Paul and Frank

of Remenick's Improvements
wish

The News Review a
Happy Birthday on their
60th and many, many more!

Paul Remenick

Frank Gomez



Antoinette M. Bram is sworn in as Greenbelt's new mayor by Vivian Jenkins, Clerk of the 7th Judicial Court.
- photo by J. Henson November 11, 1993

Antoinette Bram Installed as Mayor

by David Morse

By unanimous voice vote, Antoinette Bram's fellow councilmembers elected her Greenbelt's first female mayor in over four decades as a number of current and former state and local

officials looked on. And a grateful council and city government bid farewell to Gil Weidenfeld, Greenbelt's mayor for the last 11 years and councilmember for 22 years.

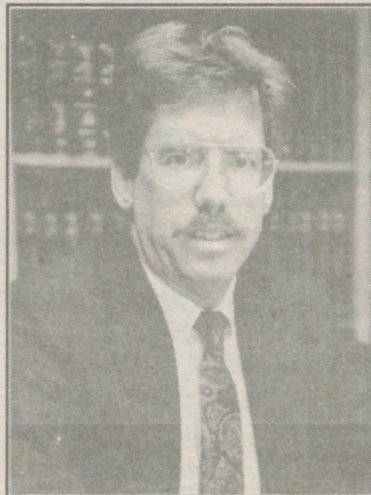
November 11, 1993

City Manager's Departure Catches City by Surprise

by Virginia Beauchamp

"We're sorry to see him go," said Mayor Antoinette Bram, when questioned about the city's response to the unexpected news that City Manager Daniel Hobbs will be leaving Greenbelt for a new position in Farmington Hills, Michigan. "But we understand that this was an offer he could not refuse." Noting that Hobbs had come to Greenbelt from a larger city (Killeen, Texas), she continued, "We were fortunate to have him with us for five years."

July 4, 1996



Dan Hobbs



"Red" Allen with some galley type ready for inking.

- photo by Sharon Natoli

Shock

(continued from page 1)

rich!" her hubby thundered.

They pay their employees!" It irked him that she had her own independent income.

We weathered the crisis, as we've weathered so many. We believe we play an important part in the life of the town. Some of our readers seem to think so — or why else did

Editors

(continued from page 1)

summer vacation, sweeping the floors and helping where he could. He was the first of five siblings to grow up in and then work in the print shop. Steve, the younger son, was the last to leave when he became a Prince George's County policeman two years ago. Red's wife, Nancy, ran the office and did the books for many years after their children were grown.

In recent years Dale and Bill have played important roles in getting the paper out, setting up pages and doing the final paste-up. During the past couple of months, Bill has been introducing the print shop to the computer age. He is now setting all the stories on the computer, though the ads are still being set on the linotype or by hand.

August 3, 1995



one of them call the mayor to complain that a member of the News Review's board had an unlisted number?

Lost Cat

It'll take a while to get used to our new quarters. We'll have to stick a few dozen pieces of paper on the walls with scotch tape, and they'll have to yellow a bit before we feel at home. I'm pretty sure our readers will find us, though, when they want to bring in an impassioned letter to the Editor, or a classified ad about a lost cat, or an only slightly exaggerated piece of campaign literature.

And when they wander in we'll be there, blinking in the sunlight yet trying gamely to put out the paper as usual.

January 18, 1996

Oops! Looking for Us?

If you tried to respond to our ad of last week to volunteer to help this paper, and found the basement of 15 Parkway inaccessible and dark, please, please try again. Only this time come on Tuesday evening to our new offices at the Greenbelt Community Center - the first door on the left, if you enter the Center from the east (Municipal Building) side.

We need volunteers to do a wide variety of jobs including editing and proofing. Maybe if you had volunteered earlier, you would have caught our mis-directions in last week's ad.

December 12, 1996



The View from Ridge Road

by Christina O'Boyle

Riding Away

His heart is soaring way out there with his imagination somewhere above the cracked sidewalk along Ridge Road. He thinks, "I can DO this. I can go anywhere." He feels like he never has before. This moment is the one he'll never forget.

Our first grader learned to ride a bike one week ago today. In one week his mastery over those two wheels has made the episode almost bland. Michael thinks it's no big deal. Not now he doesn't. He's not looking back. I am. Getting to this point he had to go through a big barrier. He wasn't ready and I wasn't pushing, so Mike was the last one in the neighborhood to get rid of training wheels; everyone else did it last summer. Once he put his mind to it, he went through that wall like thin air.

Now I watch him glide past the house with all that glory in his face. Power and freedom are all over him. So are bruises, cuts and scrapes. His thin, still fragile legs are brown with bruises, his elbows are scabby. I shudder as I dry him after a bath. While watching me change Michael's diaper when he was just a few months old, a friend said, "His skin is still perfect. No marks yet." "Of course his body is perfect." I thought, "I carry him everywhere and he does nothing for himself." But something inside her voice lodged those words into memory. Something like authority: Carol had twins who had just gotten their drivers' license. She had watched her babies' unmarred skin stretch and grow as it covered crawlers, toddlers, runners, tree-climbers and bike riders. Visions of broken bones and stitched skin must have flashed across her mind as she looked at my baby's body. What

LATE FLASH

The position of Greenbelt City Manager has been offered to Michael P. McLaughlin, currently the interim city manager, by the Greenbelt City Council. The council met in executive session on Wednesday, September 11 at 8 p.m. to make their decision. McLaughlin received the news at 9:45 p.m. Council authorized Robert Manzi, city attorney, to draw up a contract by the next regular council meeting, October 7.

- September 12, 1996



Allen Printing Sold

Allen Printing Service, which for over 50 years published the Greenbelt News Review, was recently purchased by Hayes Printing and Graphics.

March 25, 1996

a mother knows, she can't always say. But another mother can remember what is implied, then add her own experience. It comes out the same; our children grow up. It's as mundane as it is startling.

When they were babies and needed me constantly, I thought my children would never grow up. I mumbled as much last night. Hoisting their bike and tricycle onto the porch while repeating five times, "Go in and wash your hands for dinner," I thought, will they ever be able to do anything for themselves? Then, while changing the diaper on a friend's baby, I realized that at least mine have gotten beyond that stage. But they get over one hurdle and exchange it for the next. Instead of finding satisfaction, I find my sense of protection over their lives is threatened by their newfound abilities. Michael pedals at the same speed as his pals and uses the boundaries their parents set a year ago. Pushing our old parameters, he rides where I can no longer see him.

His bones knew instinctively what it would be like to have me release the seat and handlebar of his bike last Saturday. And I knew when I let go, he would begin his flight away from me. That indelible moment: on a bike. A body slicing through air very fast. Heart soaring way up there. A mother left standing on a cracked sidewalk proudly watching her child grow up.

April 20, 1995

The Greenbriar Community
Association
and Glen Oaks Apartments
Congratulates
The Greenbelt News Review
on
Sixty Years of
Outstanding Community Service



My Point of View

On Trails Being Natural

by James Giese

There has been a lot of advocacy in recent years for "natural pathways." To me this is an oxymoron, because paths are for the most part not natural, but created by humans. Of course, a few of the more broad minded among us consider humans to be a part of nature, but at least for this discourse, let us assume that we are not.

In a pristine forest, the surface of the ground is thickly covered with a layer of decomposing humus and leaves or needles not yet decomposed. Growing from this layer and the soil below you will find, depending on forest conditions, mature and young trees and an understory of shrubs, ferns and other small vegetation. The extensive root system stabilizes the soil and humus on slopes....

February 18, 1993

Greenbelt Reacts with Anger As County Nixes Lake Plans

by Virginia Beauchamp

An unscheduled item, added to the agenda by City Manager Daniel Hobbs at the regular city council meeting on Monday, March 14, evoked disbelief, consternation, and anger from councilmembers, city staff and citizens. That very morning, the city had been notified that the permit to proceed with plans for the creation of Greenbrook Lake would be denied by the State of Maryland. The lake design proposed for Greenbrook East had been in the planning stages for almost a decade.

March 27, 1994

A Designated Green Belt

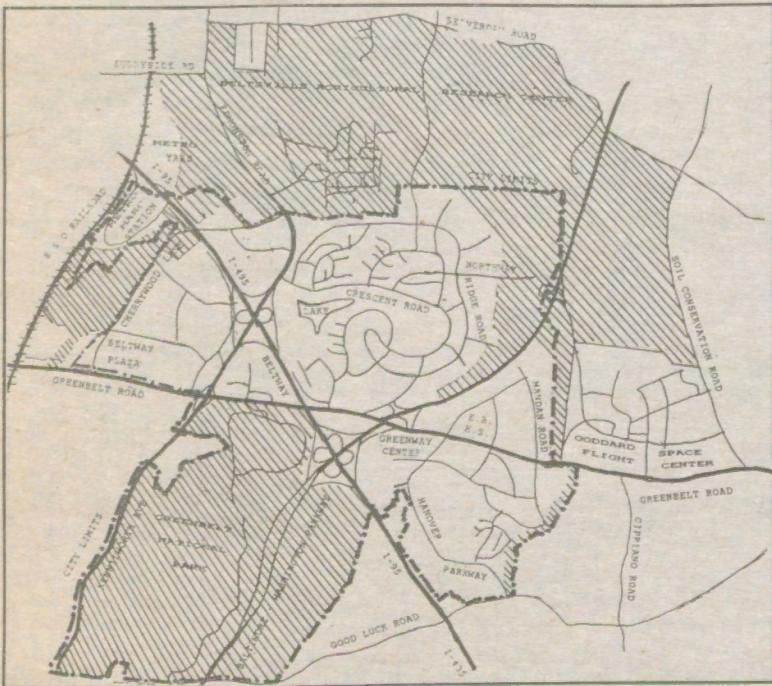
When you think about it, it really is surprising that nothing was ever done while Greenbelt was being planned or for 55 years thereafter to designate this city's green belt, even though it was that planning concept of Ebenezer Howard that gave this community its name.

Although when first built there was a green belt of undeveloped land, it was clearly intended that eventually more homes would be built and that not all land would permanently remain as the green belt. By the time the federal government sold Greenbelt in the early 1950s, little consideration was given to the long-range planning of development of the city. While the original homes were buffered with a green belt sold to the fledgling cooperative, this land was lost to development shortly thereafter because of the economic concerns of the homeowners.

Elsewhere in this issue is a column by former City Manager James K. Giese, now a News Review staffer, in which he proposes a process for formally designating remaining green space around our community as a green belt. Although the designation process and the specific land to be included are subjects for further discussion, we agree with the general concept of his proposal. We urge the City Council to take this proposal under consideration and initiate a designation process.

The time to designate our green belt is long past due. Let's do it now, before more of the remaining green space is developed.

May 18, 1993



This map of Greenbelt and its environs depicts the approximate area (marked with diagonal striped lines) to be designated officially as the green belt for Greenbelt as proposed by James Giese.

May 18, 1993

Welcome Back

It gives me great pleasure to read your recent editorial and by-line article — in support of designating the Green Belt and restricting the allowable land uses — in the same spaces

which were used only one year ago to advise against GHI's granting of a conservation easement. Welcome back to the fight!

May 18, 1993

More on Trails

... Just as I, along with the world's population, benefit by the existence of a healthy rain forest in South America that I cannot visit at my leisure, expense or convenience, I and all Greenbelters benefit from having an undisturbed woodland in Greenbelt.

Please do not turn our little piece of wilderness into another landscaped sports area with ballfields and "paved" pathways.

March 4, 1993

No Paved Trails

February 25, 1993

Enough Pavement

Preserve Paths

Disgusted

I just read this article and I am thoroughly disgusted.

February 25, 1993

Debbie Dempsey Awarded Prize

by Dorothy Sucher

(Editor's Note: Reading the News Review carefully can have unexpected benefits, as this story shows.)

This is an amazing story. Ever hear of the One-Minute Maalox Award? Funny, right? Wrong! And if you think you've never heard of it, wrong again — at least if you read the November 7, 1996, issue of the Greenbelt News Review.

Greenbelter Debbie Dempsey read that issue. When she saw the article, she thought, "Why don't I apply?"

The award had been established to recognize "Ten of America's fastest-acting heroes." And Debbie, a Prince George's County emergency dispatch aide, had saved a woman's life in 1982.

On Tuesday, May 6, at a ceremony in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, Debbie Dempsey received her award for heroism: \$5,000 and a commemorative plaque, as well as a \$1,000 donation to her favorite charity.

Dempsey and the woman she saved have become friends, and call each other from time to time to say hello. At Dempsey's invitation, the victim joined her at the awards ceremony.

July 7, 1997

Day Turned Tragic At Greenbelt Lake

by Kerana Todorov

Questions abound as the search continues for the retrieval of the body of a 23-year-old man who presumably drowned Monday at around 1:30 p.m. in Greenbelt Lake. The missing man, Dwayne Williams, was a Guide Program, Inc. counselor at a group home for homeless teenagers in Riverdale. He was at the bow of the jonboat operated by the owners of the private concession stand at Attick Park.

For reasons that are still unclear, the boat at full throttle started taking on water at the bow. The operator of the motorized boat apparently then tried to head back to shore when the boat stopped, causing the bow to



Local astronomer Doug Love was puzzled by the instructions for building a sun viewer as printed in the April 28 News Review. A second look at the instructions would have helped.

Gathering at Wolfe Field For Perseid Meteor Storm

by Doug Love

The Perseid Meteor shower is always a high point of my summer. It is the best meteor shower of the year, offering up to 60 meteors per hour under normal conditions and, being in August, it is comfortable to stay out all night in a dark area and count "shooting stars." The counts are scientifically valuable, and many of my friends across the country collect them to compare numbers' with sky conditions. While watching for meteors, I listen to the shortwave time signals and reacquaint myself with the ancient constellations.

Unpredictable

Since the comet is somewhat unpredictable, we didn't know for sure just when the storm would hit. The only thing to do was to find a dark spot such as Wolfe Field, and set up our lawn chairs, snacks, tape recorders and shortwave radios, and watch all night, keeping ourselves awake by swapping folktales, such as the story of Perseus.

There was a large group playing rock music on Metro Mountain, and a number of families on the bleachers. Several other groups set up in the field, some with us and others in other

places. Some of the kids played flashlight tag while waiting for the meteors to start falling.

One Meteor

I am really happy for the responses to the one meteor we saw. It streaked south through the Big Dipper at 9:45, leaving a bluegray train 40 degrees long that lasted several seconds. The meteor itself was bluish white, and second magnitude (fairly bright). A few oohs and aahs were heard, and we eagerly waited for more. All we saw the rest of that night was a lot of planes.

September 2, 1993

Bradley-Papp Outlines Solutions For Center Mall Problems

by Virginia Beauchamp

In commenting on the proposed renovation of the Roosevelt Center in the heart of Old Greenbelt, the message of voters to the recent city questionnaire was (paraphrased) "If it ain't

broke, don't fix it." The city's answer, and that of landscape architect Sharon Bradley-Papp, who has been looking into design possibilities for the renovation, is that if it ain't broke now, it soon will be....

My hope in designing the renovation is to preserve those qualities of the Center that people value highly.

—Sharon Bradley-Papp
December 21, 1995



Friends and family of the drowning victim hold a long vigil at Greenbelt Lake, watching and waiting as the search continues.

- photo by Thelma Loret deMola



Debris on roof of house at 13 Lakeside shows the near-miss as plane crashes into back yard.

Copyright 1993 by William Cornett/September 16, 1993

Small Plane Crashes Near House, Leaving Two Dead

A single-engine plane crashed and burned in Greenbelt on Friday, September 10, at 5:50 p.m., killing the two people on board. No one on the ground was injured when the Cessna plowed into the back yard of 13 Lakeside Drive, home of Josephine Blair, coming to rest about 15 feet from the house. The only one home at the time was her grandson Paul Blair, an auto parts manager who had returned home a short time before and was taking a nap, from which he was awakened by the sound of the crash.

According to police, both occupants apparently died on impact in the two seater plane, which crumpled as it hit the ground and immediately burst into flames. Neighbors tried to extinguish the fire with garden hoses before the arrival of fire trucks from Greenbelt, Lanham

Hills, Branchville, and Berwyn Heights.

Police cordoned off the area to hold back the crowd that quickly gathered, including many children who had been on Braden Field, which the small plane had been circling for some time, close to the ground. Jo Hossick, who had been playing tennis, said, "He circled the courts, and we could see he was in trouble. The engine failed, and then it picked up again and he veered and the plane went sideways. I was afraid he was going to hit the courts and I said, 'Let's get out of here!' Eight people were on the courts, and there were a lot of kids on the athletic field. I had the feeling he could have been trying to land on Braden Field, and decided not to because of the kids. Maybe he was kind of a hero."

September 16, 1993

Natoli's "Tears for Julie" Wins First Place Award



"Tears for Julie": Friends of Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Julie Ferguson weep at a ceremony in her memory. Julie's body was found on March 21, 1995, after she was reported missing from Greenway Shopping Center. Her killer has still not been brought to justice. This moving photograph won Greenbelter Sharon Natoli a first place White House News Photographers Association award.

- photo by Sharon Natoli/March 7, 1996

Gunman Holds Two Hostages In Tense 6-Hour Standoff

Greenbelt was the scene this week of a tense standoff between police and an armed fugitive holding two hostages, who had barricaded himself inside a GHI house.

Richard Lamar Gordon, 26, of Temple Hills, surrendered to police on Monday, March 31, at 7:14 p.m., emerging from a house in 10

Officers Save Boy's Memories of Mother

Two City of Greenbelt police officers were recognized with City Manager Awards at the Greenbelt council meeting of October 12. The diligent and conscientious investigation of a recent theft of computer equipment from a car by PFC Richard F. Sullivan and Detective Corporal Cody Carr led to the return of an irreplaceable computer disk and gave a child back the memory of his mother.

The wife of the victim of the theft had been diagnosed with a fatal disease. Contained within the stolen computer equipment was a pictorial autobiography on diskette of the victim's wife.

The diskette was to have been left for the couple's ten-year-old son after her death. She died after the theft of the diskette and before there was time to make another.

Working with the State's Attorney's Office, the officers were able to locate and return the missing computer items as part of plea negotiations with the defendant. A child who has lost his mother forever will now be able to keep her memory alive.

October 14, 1993

Police to Launch Bike Patrols on Labor Day

by Babita Kapoor

Community Policing received a major boost this July when the city witnessed officer Mike Mesol along with three other officers patrolling the streets on their bikes. Bike patrolling goes a step further in enhancing the partnership between the police and the community....

August 31, 1995



"Bikes have the advantage of going where cars cannot," said police officer Mike Mesol, who heads the new four-man bike patrol.

August 31, 1995

Court of Southway where he had held police at bay for six hours. He was charged with armed robbery, use of a handgun during the commission of a crime, burglary, and false imprisonment. Police

said the hostages, a woman in her forties and her 17-year-old son, who resided in the house, were unharmed. The names of the hostages were not disclosed

April 3, 1997

Our City's At Risk Children Home Alone, Unsupervised

Latchkey kids hanging out at stores, easy prey for exploitation by older, streetwise children. Frightened fourth graders with no one to talk to, home alone behind locked doors. Not in Greenbelt, you say? Well, think again.

Population changes, together with shifts in family composition and work patterns, have resulted in a rising number of neglected children in our community, children at great risk for failure in life. Crime, violence, and teen pregnancy are only some of the problems to be predicted when young people lack constructive activities and adequate supervision. And troubled

kids are kids who make trouble.

In an effort to address this problem, a meeting was held at Springhill Lake Elementary School on April 21 to discuss the possibility of creating an after-school program at the school, which draws its 700 students from Greenbelt and Seat Pleasant.

An estimated 10 to 150 elementary school students in Springhill Lake have no afterschool care, according to Principal Linda Sherwood. Few childcare providers are located there, and many parents cannot afford to pay for babysitters

May 5, 1994

Police Blotter

Arrests

A woman who was stopped for a registration violation became verbally combative when asked to produce her driver's license and registration. She provided the information verbally but then refused to sign the citations written up by the officer. Advised that she could be arrested for refusal, she became more combative. The officer's attempt to arrest her resulted in a brief struggle during which the woman bit the officer. The woman, a resident of the 6000 block of Springhill Drive, was arrested

and charged with assault, resisting arrest and traffic charges.

September 9, 1997

A woman working at Jeepers!, 6000 Greenbelt Road, was approached by a man around 4:45 p.m. on Sunday, September 1. The man grabbed the woman by her shoulder, kissed her without her consent and left the establishment. The man is described as black, in his twenties, 6'0", with close cut black hair, with a beard, wearing a white t-shirt and jean shorts.

September 12, 1996

A Beaver's Domain?

by Virginia Beauchamp

Overnight a good-sized tree fell across the stream marking off the lake peninsula on the south. Its wine-dark crest caught my attention, with its highest peak resting on the ground below the path, holding up the rest of its branches above the water. I couldn't see what felled it — the end of the broken trunk on the other side of the stream was hidden in underbrush. But recognizing the tree as a sweet gum, I knew of course that the vandal was a beaver.

On the shoreline across the way was a pile of brush — perhaps the start of a dam intended at the site. There's already a pond on the other side of the bridge — this one man-made as a trap for silt carried down from eroding land. A dam this side of the bridge would extend that pond.

Is that what the creature had in mind? It's not for nothing that a nearby tributary is called Beaver Dam Creek. And to be honest about it, the lake itself is merely a variation on the theme.

Shall we let the fellow, as a crea-



Beaver "Sculpture" at Greenbelt Lake

ture of nature, have his way? He's only doing what instinct directs him to undertake as his life's work. Yet a beautiful tree is lost. And after that another will go. He's about the business of creating wetlands, doing his share to conserve the Bay.

Fellows like him had the run of these territories before the tobacco farmers came in. The farmers are gone now, the metropolis encroaches, and yet he works on — from his perspective, putting things to rights. Who are we to say him nay?

October 24, 1996

Photo Instruction

Sharon Natoli is offering free photo instruction to anyone who would be willing to be a photographer for the News Review. Natoli, a professional photographer for the Washington Times, occasionally submits photos to the News Review that she has taken in her home community. "I respect and really like and enjoy the Greenbelt News Review," Natoli said.

Anyone interested in her offer should submit a written request to the newspaper office.

March 7, 1996

(Editor's Note: As a result of this offer of photo instruction by award-winning Greenbelt photographer Sharon Natoli, many would-be photographers came forward. Their efforts resulted in a significant change in the look of the News Review, as well as improved coverage of local events.)



Cutting the big, beautiful, green ribbon in the warm sunshine at the Community Center's grand opening: From left (front row) Cathy Salgado, building manager; Suzanne Plogman, Board of Education, with her daughter; Councilmember J Davis; Mayor Antoinette Bram; and Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Tom White. Rear section Richard Castaldi, County Councilmember

Audrey Scott; Dan Hobbs, city manager; Gil Weidenfeld, past mayor; Delegate Jim Hubbard; Councilmember Ed Putens; Ted Mecum, Community Center Task Force; Senator Leo Green and Delegates Joan Pitkin and Mary Conroy (both partially hidden).

- photo by Rita Wooddell/March 21, 1996

Prince George's County Honors Its Outstanding Women of Achievement

by Virginia Beauchamp

Everyone in Greenbelt knows that to be named Outstanding Citizen of the year is to receive the city's greatest accolade — its way of expressing appreciation for dedicated volunteer service to the community. Over the years, many recipients of this award have been women. Now each of these women who have made a difference in Greenbelt has also been recognized in a larger arena. All of them appear in the volume *Women of Achievement in Prince George's County*.

This book is an illustrated series of biographies of more than 250 women leaders who have resided and worked within the county. It is a handsome folio-size volume.

Three of these have long been active as members of the *News Review* staff — news editor Elaine Skolnik, who shared the honor in 1974 with her late husband, Al; Mary Lou Williamson, the paper's long-time editor, who was recognized with the award in 1985; and Sandra Lange. Lange, a reporter, was recognized primarily for her service in 1987 as chair of the city's year-long 50th anniversary celebration ...

Another member of the staff, but honored for her role as an educator, is Virginia Beauchamp. She was inducted in 1991 into the Prince George's County Women's Hall of Fame. Since 1972 she has worked for the development of women's studies as an academic discipline at the University of Maryland and on the national level. She also chaired the University's Commission for Women ...

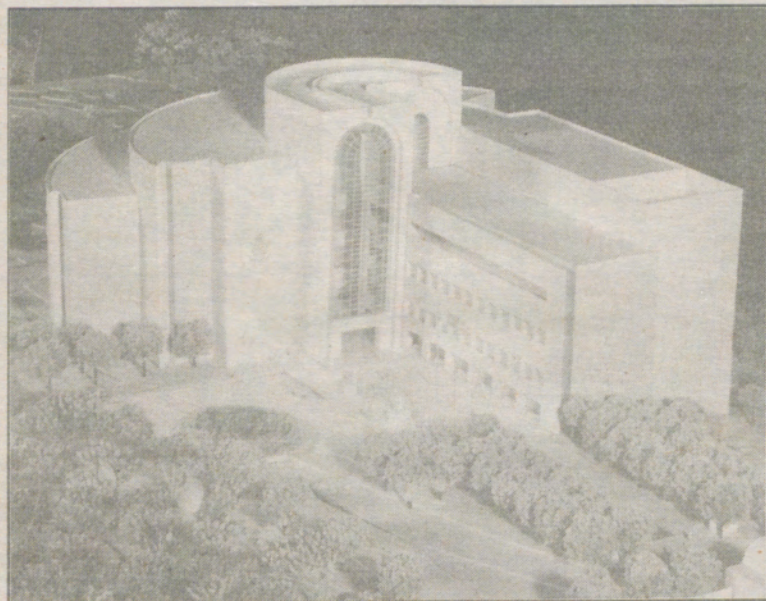
Other Greenbelt Outstanding

Women of Achievement were Clara Brandt, Joyce Chestnut, Florence Holly and Dorothy Pyles, who were also selected as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizens for various years; former city mayors Elizabeth S. Harrington and Antoinette "Toni" Bram, former City Council members

Rhea Cohen and Elizabeth Maffay and Board of Education member Suzanne Plogman.

Other former or present Greenbelt women of distinction are Irene Hensel, Deanne Lange, Sylvia Reisher, Beatrice Rodgers and Linda Shevitz.

September 1, 1994



Aerial view of new Federal Courthouse. Picture is made from a model.

- photo courtesy General Services Administration

On a Chilly Day

New Courthouse Dedicated

by Virginia Beauchamp

The first Monday of October, as Senator Barbara Mikulski reminded those gathered at the dedication ceremony for the new Federal Courthouse in Greenbelt, makes an auspicious occasion every year — the opening of the new session for the Supreme Court of the United States. As she noted, that land-

mark date for justice also appropriately signaled the official beginning for the building.

The new courthouse will serve Prince George's, Montgomery, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's counties. Its site in Greenbelt was chosen because of its easy access to both the Metro system and the Capital Beltway.

October 13, 1994

Upstairs and Downstairs: Community Center Tour

by Heather Elizabeth Peterson

"We're back in 1936 now," explains Recreation Department employee Karen Haseley to the people accompanying her on a tour of the Community Center on March 16.

It's hard to tell what is new and what is old, one visitor comments.

Antiques and Computers

In the office of the Greenbelt *News Review*, antique manual typewriters sit at one end of the room,

while computer equipment can be seen at the other end. A fax machine and copier are located on wooden cabinets, while an old adding machine, still in use, occupies a corner of a desk. One visitor, familiar with the *News Review*'s old, dark, former quarters, looks around at the daylight-filled room and comments that the new location is "amazingly different."

March 21, 1996

"A Million Thank-Yous"

by Heather Elizabeth Peterson

Last time, the Community Center's dedication was cancelled due to a snowstorm. This time, the only weather hazard was a sun so bright that City Manager Daniel Hobbs had to shade his eyes as he gazed into the crowd gathered outside the building.

The open house and dedication of Greenbelt's Community Center took place on the warm afternoon of March 16. Sunlight reflected off the tiaras of the Misses Greenbelt, and one visi-

tor commented, "It's awfully hot here in the sun."

Mayor Antoinette Bram spoke of the weather in her opening remarks, pointing out that on an evening just one week ago, snow covered the steps of the entrance where she stood and the temperature was ten degrees. As she reached out to touch the newly budding tree beside her, she said, "We are blessed today."

The first part of the ceremony took place outside, beneath the "We the People" frieze at the south entrance.

March 21, 1996

Happy 60th Anniversary Greenbelt News Review

and

Happy Thanksgiving To All



Greenbelt Federal Credit Union

112 Centerway Roosevelt Center
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THE ARTS IN GREENBELT

Greenbelt Receives Legacy of Art From Daughter of Lenore Thomas

Greenbelt is the recipient of an important and historic gift of art. The daughter of Lenore Thomas, sculptor of the Mother and Child statue that has long been Greenbelt's symbol, has presented the city with a statue and a group of prints made by her mother. Lenore Straus, the daughter, has also indicated that she wishes to leave a group of smaller sculptures to the city in her will.

Commenting on the gift, City Manager Dan Hobbs said, "I'm excited that in the nineties we can continue Lenore Thomas's artistic legacy to the city. It's a kind of poetic closure."

Lenore Thomas told her daughter that she did not want her works left to a museum where they might languish in a basement, but preferred that they be put where people could see them
December 22, 1994



Lenore Thomas at work on the Mother and Child statue. The photograph was taken at her studio in Accokeek, MD.
- photo courtesy of Eric Straus/ September 5, 1996

Mead Grant Museum to Commission Play about Greenbelt

The Gilbert and Jaylee Mead Family Foundation, formerly of Greenbelt, recently announced a \$5,000 award to the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) to commission an original script based on Greenbelt's history. When written, the play will be produced by the Greenbelt Arts Center....

August 10, 1995

Jane Doe Electrifies Crowd at New Deal

Social consciousness and awareness of a planet in trouble underlie the music of Jane Doe, a four-woman group that electrified the New Deal Cafe on Saturday, October 25. "But we don't hit you over the head with it," said singer-guitarist Lisa Walker. "We'll use allegory sometimes." Not to mention high energy, a pounding beat, fine musicianship and catchy tunes: everything a group needs to give an outstanding performance, which is what they offered to an enthusiastic crowd on Saturday night

October 23, 1997

Spotlight on the Arts

by Konrad Herling

It's three days and counting before Opening Night, and Neil Simon's play, "Come Blow Your Horn" is taking shape. I took in about half of the second act and you begin to realize it could be your life or your neighbor's being played out before your very eyes. Simon always seems to strike a chord common to our everyday existence. Director Ed Staff informed me that this was Simon's first play, his first effort at writing anything over 12 pages. It took him four years, from 1957 to 1961, to write it

May 1, 1997



GAC's "Greenbelt Story" Shows and Makes History

by Virginia Beauchamp

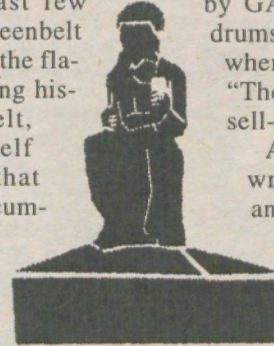
"Maryland Special Project #1: The Greenbelt Story" may contribute to the historical record of this city in more ways than one. Not only did the play presented in the last few weeks by the Greenbelt Arts Center offer the flavor of the changing history of Greenbelt, but the play itself was adding to that history. This circumstance was highlighted by the work's closing lines, in which the play's real-life producer steps on stage, reading from the cur-

rent pages of that week's News Review. As she walks off-stage, she comments that "it was a good thing we did here."

In the first place, this was the most successful production ever by GAC. Following the doldrums of the months of autumn when their last play bombed, "The Greenbelt Story" drew sell-out crowds.

A special pleasure to playwright Daniel Ray Young and the producers and cast, was the favorable attention the work received from reviewers in both the Washington Post and Baltimore Sun

February 13, 1997



New Deal Cafe Open House

by Bob Buzzanco and Don Comis

The New Deal Cafe is deeply embedded in the hearts of Greenbelters. That was made abundantly clear by the large turnout at the organizing meeting on Saturday, Oct. 22....

October 27, 1997

Jasper's Restaurant & Bar



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EDUCATION

Greenbelt Elementary Dedicated As a School for the 21st Century

With one snip of the specially made scissors, Principal Carolyn Goff cut the red, white and blue ribbon that stretched across the

stage and Greenbelt Elementary school was officially dedicated. The ceremony took place in the cafeteria/gym on Friday morning

November 19. The huge scissors had been specially made at Tall Oaks Vocational School

November 26, 1993

A Greenbelt Profile

Carolyn Goff Reflects on Career

by Sandra A. Lange

It's easy to see why everyone was sorry to see Carolyn Goff retire as principal from Greenbelt Elementary at the end of the school year in June. Of course, she was known to be a very hard worker, often putting in 10 or 12 hour days. But, more than her conscientious performance, each child, each parent, each teacher will miss the personal bond they had formed with her.

Carolyn Goff is a woman who looks directly at you through clear blue eyes, smiles with genuine warmth and holds out her hand. Her whole persona radiates an aura that conveys the impression that here is someone who cares deeply about children. As she says herself, being an educator was not just her job or her profession — it was her career and her life. Goff spent 23 years in the Prince George's County school system, seven at Greenbelt Elementary. She was vice principal for two years and principal for five years.

"If I could have done the job from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., I probably would have stayed on," she says wistfully. "I still had the enthusiasm." But that wasn't her style. She could never give less than 110 percent of her time and her energy. When her energy began to wane following two serious illnesses, she realized it was time to retire.

"Celebrate with Me"

On the next-to-last day of the school year, she wrote to each member of her staff about her plans. Her letter began "Celebrate with Me." She had said



Gerald Boarman

Principal of the Year Award to Boarman

More kudos have come the way of Dr. Gerald Boarman, principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, who received a \$25,000 National Educator Award from the Milken Family Foundation on September 6. Boarman has just been named Maryland Principal of the Year by the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP).

October 12, 1995



Principal Carolyn Goff announces that Center School has received the Blue Ribbon School Award from the U.S. Department of Education.

- photo by Letty Morton/March 11, 1993

nothing to anyone earlier because she had not wanted them to dwell on her leaving. Nor did she want a prolonged "goodbye." She wanted to work hard until the very last day, and then leave quietly. That was her style, she affirmed.

"A Stressful Occupation"

Teaching is a stressful occupation. Goff says there are more angry children these days than when she first began teaching in the 1960s. There are more crack babies being born, and when these children come to school, they may not be ready to learn. There are more children being born to parents who are still children themselves. Sixty-five to 70 percent of Greenbelt Elementary's children come from single-parent families. Goff commented that schools today need social workers in order to provide the services children need. Greenbelt Elementary has only one guidance counselor serving 720 children.

"I tried to meet all the children, then take a personal interest in them," she comments. She strived to learn each child's name, but she was dismayed to realize that she couldn't always remember each of the 720 names of the children in her school.

"Seriously Overcrowded"

Greenbelt Elementary has space for only 500 children, she declares. Like most county schools, it is seriously overcrowded, and this affects the personal relationships she feels are so important to maintain. She herself became a mentor to one fifth-grade boy after school. When asked why she took on this added responsibility, she shrugged. "Well, I was there anyway until six or six thirty in the evening," she replied, as if this child's needs were no trouble

at all. She was gratified when the boy's parents sent her flowers at the end of the school year, acknowledging that the relationship had made a difference in their son's life.

"Greenbelt is a wonderful place to work," she states. "The community is always open to new ideas. The school should continue to be the heart of the community." She knows the new principal, Mary Katherine (Kathy) Curl; both were social studies teachers. She feels the transition will be a smooth one.

August 28, 1997

Springhill Lake — School at Thirty

Springhill Lake Elementary School will celebrate its 30th year of serving the Greenbelt community on Friday, June 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. That evening the school will also dedicate its new playground. Students, teachers, and community members, past and present, are invited to join Springhill Lake for an evening of friendship, food, and games. For more information, call the school at 301-513-5996.

June 5, 1997

Greenbelt Elementary Has Acting Principal

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jerome Clark, has appointed Mary Katherine Curl acting principal of Greenbelt Elementary School. She is now working at the school getting things ready for opening day, September 2. It is expected that the Board of Education will name her principal at its next meeting.

Principal Carolyn Goff has resigned as of July 1.

August 21, 1997

Center School's Last Hurrah

by Barbara Likowski

"Rejoice!" School Board Member Suzanne Plogman told those who had come to say farewell to Center School on June 12. This is no time for nostalgia, she said. Plogman and others present emphasized that Greenbelt will have it all — a new educational facility in the north end of the

city and a community center in the present building. When Center School opened its doors in 1937, it served as school, community center and meeting place for civic groups and church services. So the building will serve the community again in many of the same ways.

July 8, 1993

Forgetting Eleanor in ERHS

(This editorial is reprinted from the January 2, 1996, Raider Review of Eleanor Roosevelt High School.)

Ms. Catherine Duff, an Eleanor Roosevelt chemistry teacher, glared at the student, with a look of slight shock and irritation. "No," she said, glancing at the picture of Eleanor Roosevelt hanging by her classroom door. "That most certainly is not my mother."

Perhaps the chemistry student inquiring about Duff's picture knows a great deal less than the average ERHS student. However, many people in this school and greater community have forgotten the important role Eleanor Roosevelt played in the formation of Greenbelt ...

ERHS's students, however, don't worry too much about the negligence. James Brostor, a junior, admits, "I guess it is a little thoughtless. I really don't know very much about Eleanor Roosevelt..."

Lisa Krebs adds ... "We're all just too lazy to say 'Eleanor Roosevelt' all the time. It does seem wrong to leave 'Eleanor' out ...

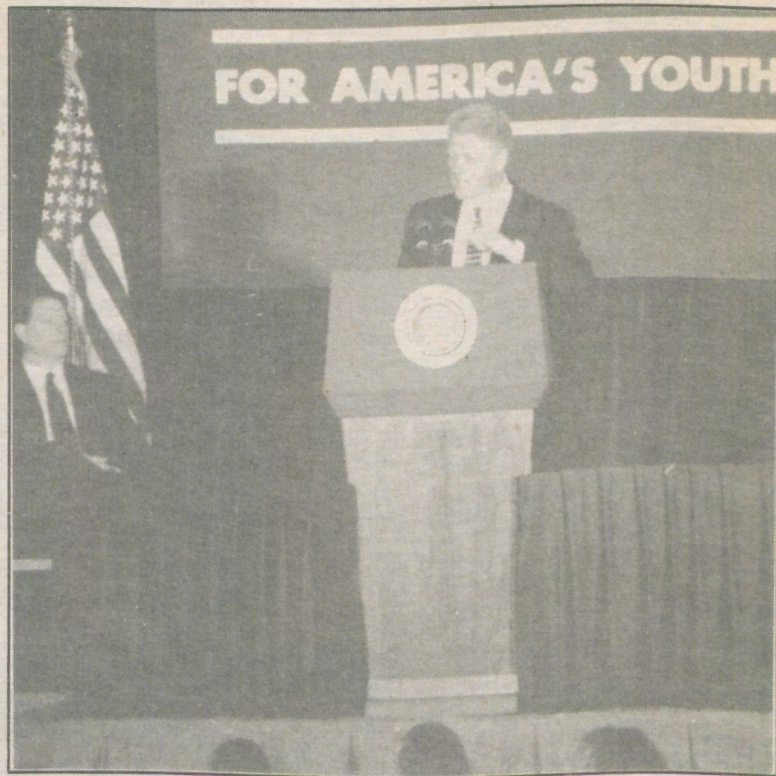
The reasons for our remembering Eleanor Roosevelt are many. There are few women who worked so passionately and effectively as an advocate for human rights both here and abroad. And there are none who have taken a more passionate interest in Greenbelt than Eleanor Roosevelt.

The values she espoused, her belief in the transforming power of education, her conviction that the cultural, religious, and racial diversity of this country was not only a cause for celebration but also the source of its strength — all of these are reasons for remembering her.

ERHS needs to make sure that it keeps the 'Eleanor' in Roosevelt.

(Editor's Note: January Tavel, the ERHS student who wrote this editorial, later won the News Review's Alfred E. Skolnik Journalism Award.)

May 9, 1996



President Bill Clinton in Greenbelt. The President, with Vice President Al Gore, spoke before a packed house at Eleanor Roosevelt High School on March 7, 1996 as part of a White House Leadership Conference on Youth, Drug Use, and Violence.

- photo by Beverly Palau

Janet Reno Guest Speaker At Roosevelt Graduation

by Mary Moien

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School class of 1996 has graduated. On June 4, a sea of nearly 600 young men and women floated into the US Air Arena in caps and gowns of white and light blue. The sound of "Pomp and

Circumstance," performed by the ERHS Symphony Orchestra, was heard as row after row filled with graduates. The Honorable Janet Reno, Attorney General of the United States, was the guest speaker.

July 4, 1996

At Last...Metro Comes to Greenbelt



After years of waiting, Greenbelt citizens will be able to use the local Metro station at Roosevelt Center Mall for travel to all parts of the metropolitan area. The accelerated construction schedule was made possible because of full immediate funding by the Federal government. President Bill Clinton has been invited to the opening ceremony next Saturday, April 3, at 10:30 a.m. The Greenbelt Band will perform, followed by brief welcoming remarks by Mayor Gil Weidenfeld. After the President cuts the ribbon, persons age 13 - 55 will be given free passes. Senior citizens and children under two will travel at half price. The News Review has been informed that President Clinton may ride the first train back to Washington and share the details of his economic stimulus program with the citizens on board.

- photo courtesy of Bill Cornett/ April 1, 1993

Green Line Metro — a Preview Tour

by James Giese

I rode Metro from Greenbelt to Fort Totten on the Green Line. I did it on a media preview tour sponsored by Metro. While I and about 40 other media representatives, some towing camera opera-

tors, gawked at the new stations, workers were bustling about getting everything ready for the grand opening on December 11. On that day, everyone will have a chance to ride the new green line for free — but never again. At the

Greenbelt Station, I got another one-time-only chance. I ate doughnuts and drank coffee inside the station, an act that is forbidden to Metro riders.

This will be the biggest opening to take place until 2001....

December 2, 1993

Metro Comes to Greenbelt

by James Giese

A 50 foot line of elected and appointed officials slashed a green ribbon into smithereens Saturday, December 11 to mark the conclusion of ceremonies opening the Metro Green Line between Fort Totten and Greenbelt.

Centered among the ribbon cutters were County Executive Parris Glendening, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Federico Pena and Senator Paul Sarbanes.

Displaying his political acumen, perpetual State Comptroller Louis Goldstein maneuvered his way from the sidelines to the center for the photo opportunity, crowding Congressman Steny Hoyer in the front ranks. It was Hoyer, though, who received the most accolades during the ceremony.

emony.

As chill winds slipped through gaps in the ten's clear vinyl sides, the audience could see behind the speakers platform a blurred view of the new Greenbelt station and watch a steady flow of trains arriving and departing with passengers taking free rides.

Intermodal Linkup

Glendening had the pole position in the speaker's roster and led the accolades for Hoyer. "We would not be here today without

his taking the ball and running with it," he asserted.

Waited and Waited

Congressman Hoyer, calling Metro the tie that binds our region together, said that his efforts to get Metro completed gave new meaning to the old song, "I've Been Working on the Railroad." "They say that good things come to people who have waited. Well, folks, Greenbelt has waited...and waited...and waited."

December 16, 1993



U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer addressed a capacity crowd in a breezy tent during opening ceremonies. U. S. Secretary of Transportation, Federico Pena (far right) looks on.

- photo by J. Henson/ December 16, 1993

Greenbriar Residents hold Twentieth Anniversary Gala

by James Giese

Greenbriar Condominium held a big twentieth anniversary celebration Sunday, May 1, which was attended by more than 100 residents, friends and guests. The festivities were dampened, however, by the absence of Mike

Vaccaro, president of the Greenbriar Community Association, who was recovering from a heart attack at Holy Cross Hospital. Persons attending the celebration signed a giant get-well card for Vaccaro.

May 26, 1994



- photo courtesy of Louis Berger & Associates Inc./ February 25, 1993

Some of the many arrowheads found in a prehistoric campsite near Indian Creek. The measurement in millimeters is shown at the bottom.

Prehistoric Campsite Found At Site Along Indian Creek

by Betty Likowski

Evidence of some of the Greenbelt area's earliest residents was found in the form of a prehistoric campsite used between 8000 and 1000 B.C. Located near Indian Creek, the campsite was found during planning for the service yard for the Greenbelt Metro station in 1989.

Who were the people who used this campsite near Indian Creek so long ago? The period between 8000 and 1000 B.C. is referred to as the Archaic period and at that time the peoples in the eastern part of what is now the United States lived in small bands of up to 100 people. They moved among a series of campsites throughout the year depending where foods were available. They hunted, fished, and collected plants for food. The early

peoples visited the site near Indian Creek most frequently between 3000 and 1900 B.C.

At the Indian Creek campsite there were different areas for cooking, tool making, and hide working. Clusters of rocks in the central area of the site are thought to have been the cooking area. Most of the activity at the campsite would have taken place at the cooking area. Some tool-making was done away from the cooking area.

Thousands of stone tools were found at the site. The stream bed rocks would have been used to make tools. The rocks used to make some of the tools have been traced to other areas in the region, such as South Mountain near Hagerstown and a quarry near Wilmington, Delaware....

February 25, 1993.

A Personal Saga

Tour de Greenbelt Biking to Metro

by David Morse

Consider the bicycle, the Rodney Dangerfield of surface transportation. Bicycles don't get no respect.

A bike signifies the immature, the underripe, the slightly dotty. It's openly used as a term of opprobrium. George Wallace, the segregationist presidential candidate, used to vilify his opponents as "pointy-headed intellectuals who can't park their bicycles straight." And then there's the feminist bumper sticker slogan: "A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle."

That reputation didn't seem to slow down the Greenbelt Bicycle

Coalition last Saturday, however, in their tour through Greenbelt to the new Metro station opening to campaign for commuter bikeways.

The Cyclists

It's a sparkling but frigid day. Two dozen bicyclists have gathered in the parking lot at St. Hugh's, most of them having just ridden from Schrom Hills Park. With their helmets and their splendid, multi-colored outfits, the scene resembles a medieval joust. Bicyclists tend to dress on the flashy side. This is not, as in the animal kingdom, to attract mates. (Well, maybe sometimes it is.) It's so they won't get killed. They have to be seen....

December 16, 1993

Letters

Yeah, GBC

I wish to commend the Greenbelt Bicycle Coalition (GBC) for their recent advocacy on behalf of the fellow bikers within our community. Their approach was a model of grassroots democracy, political action at its best....

December 1993

Our Neighbors

Catherine Cissel celebrated her 104th birthday on May 11. That morning her birthday was announced on the "Today Show."

May 25, 1995

Best Laugh

Thanks for the best laugh I've had in ages. Your "April Fool" issue was absolutely priceless.

April 15, 1995

Happy Birthday
Greenbelt News Review
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Congratulations to the
Greenbelt News Review
For 60 years of
distinguished service to the community.
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A Walk Through the Fourth of July

by David Morse

A man with expanding middle and contracting hair, a fortyish man, is grumbling, "How come I gotta carry everything?" His fist grips the loops of a weighty plastic grocery sack. A slender, bounding boy, a nine-ish boy, responds authoritatively, "Cause you got the strongest arms." They are on the long trek down the thickly forested path that runs around Greenbelt Lake. This little colloquy explains much of what is to come. The Fourth of July is under the secret governance of children. Adults are brought along to do the heavy lifting.

The conspirators are skipping back and forth along the lake path, hosts of them. They have been waiting quietly for this time, as cockroaches await lights out in the kitchen. They are out in force, picking up rocks, chasing the ducks leaping down the embankment into the creek bed, sauntering off into the brush, ignoring the cries of consternation in their wake. Their voices squeak with anticipation. They stream forward exultantly like an army that has put the enemy to rout. Their parents groan under their burdens like refugees ...

Some of the smaller children are being conveyed like sultans in strollers and little red wagons. The wheels rumble deeply like oxcarts. Occasionally the oxen low softly on the steeper slopes. Beyond the smoke and the children swarming on the playground equipment, people are standing on line for the portable toilets. They look nervous. There are only emergencies here. Occasionally the air crackles with protests as a new arrival fails to notice the queue and heads straight for the cubicles. Nobody wants to be here, but each strenuously holds his place.

The meadow's transformation at first shocks the eye. But the Fourth of July is a transforming event. It turns the whole gritty, incessant world of time clocks and bus transfers and mortgages into a theme park. Here is where the American Dream is dreamed. The theme of this park is the hope and future of America. And indeed, everywhere in the park the hope and future of America are chasing dogs, tossing frisbees, playing boomboxes, flashing valorously down the wide direct pathway on bikes. Or lolling on the shoulders and in the laps of their perspiring custodians.

And then the storm breaks.

"I am encamped with thousands of others. What are we all doing here? Suddenly there is raucous booming overhead, like the heavens cracking open. We're being shelled! Mayday! Mayday! Get down you idiots! What do you think this is, the Fourth of July."

There is a pause. Two boys of eight or nine are leaning back in their beach chairs. One says to the other, with palpable relish. "Y'ever see one o'them things blow up all over the platform, Lance?" One can almost hear their neurons fizzing like sparklers, completing the thought: "Wouldn't that be great? The fireworks get out of control — blow everybody up, bodies flying everywhere? Cool!" In the questioner's lap is nestled a small grey terrier, wheezing contentedly, its snout poking out of the crook of its master's arm. In the dark silence between explosions, the contrast between the tender scene and the grisly idea shimmers eerily.

The Homeward Procession

The fireworks are over quickly. The sated crowd quickly disperses and pours down the lake path. The only illumination under the tree-darkened sky is provided by fluorescent tubes, thin lines of brilliant color in an omnivorous blackness. Amazingly, the toys seem to have been transformed, like other objects under the influence of the Fourth of July, from commercial flotsam to powerful talismans. The surrounding darkness and preternatural light from the tubes induces a sense of disorientation. The crowd seems to proceed down a tunnel which spans the ages, protected only by these small shafts of light, stretching out endlessly in time and space. They press closer together, stepping carefully.

At the fork in the path, they break ranks and scatter. The rest of the way seems more perilous, the amulets somehow having lost their charm. Families wander in the voice like planets released from solar gravity. People call out for their children, clutching at them nervously. Finally, they reach the end of the trail.

The rule of the elders is restored. The Lords of the Fourth, many of them, are slung across their bearers' backs, wheezing contentedly, perhaps dreaming the American Dream. Yet the bearers feel light on their feet, almost aerodynamic. The air has cooled a bit. All the lost children, uncanny mixtures of chaos and grace, have been found.

July 8, 1993



- photo by Matt Elliott, July 10, 1997

Webelos Weather Winter

by the Wolverines and the Dragons

On Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 28 and 29, the Webelos Scouts of Greenbelt Pack 202 went to the Klondike Derby, a Camporee at Cedarville State Forest. We went to have fun and to learn winter survival skills. First we built our own sled at our den meetings. Then we practiced sleeping outside in Greenbelt (it froze). We went prepared — we took dry tinder, and we started our fire with one match. We used logs, ropes and teamwork to drag our sled over a ravine. We demonstrated first aid and did other things, too. It got cold and it snowed. Some of us got wet, but some of us slept in tents anyway. Our wet gear froze inside the tent. Mostly it was fun.

February 16, 1995



- photo by Thelma Loret de Mola/March 24, 1996

Spring's Sweet Assault

First it crept up on us, deceptively timid, a crocus here, a narcissus there, breathlessly awaited by Greenbelters weary of the long, harsh winter. A false alarm or two by the weatherman threatened to freeze the buds on the cherry trees, and foolhardy gardeners who had planted their annuals too early rushed outside to cover them with towels.

But by now, throwing restraint to the warm, pollen-heavy winds, spring has sprung upon us with all the subtlety of a blaring trumpet. Tan-ta-ra! A parade of hot gold-and-orange tulips marches down Southway, clashing brazenly with a battalion of lavender azaleas. Ta-ra! A blizzard of petals sweeps through Roosevelt Center, mocking us with a reminder of winter.

Redbuds batter the air with tiny pink fists, daffodils mass to invade woodland paths, and parking lots pretend to be gardens. A heavy warmth, more of summer than spring, forces from each flower its maximum sweetness. A wandering breeze murmurs, not quite loud enough for us to hear but urgently enough to stir our blood, "Fall in love... fall in love..."

March 24, 1996

Cranky Mother Nature

by David Morse

Global warming, anyone? Mother Nature was in a cranky mood last week, pounding Greenbelters with a rich mix of snow, freezing rain, and days on end of sub-zero temperatures, which yielded frozen pipes, power failures, "Brown-outs," "rolling blackouts,"

treacherous sidewalks, undelivered mail, and stupendous heating bills.

Many people, taking advantage of liberal leave policies, stayed inside and prayerfully awaited spring. Some people, however, responded creatively.

January 27, 1994

Curry States All Libraries Will Remain Open In 1996

by Dorothy Sucher

Prince George's County Executive Wayne Curry came to Greenbelt on Tuesday morning May 16, bringing good news. At a news conference held in the Greenbelt library, Curry announced that all libraries in the county, including the Greenbelt branch, will remain open — at least through 1996. Six had been threatened with closure due to the county's bud-

get crisis.

Efforts Paid Off

Stating that he had "traveled to Annapolis many times, and lobbied for additional funding from the state," Curry added, "I was impressed with the rallying cry you stirred in support of the library system. He noted that library supporters had collected over 30,000 signatures on petitions."

May 18, 1995



Frosted trees are framed by the opening of the underpass beneath Hillside Road. Tim Farris is on the far right.

- photo by John Norden, February 3, 1994

Happy Birthday
to the
News Review

Thanks for 60 years
of Excellent Service
from the staff at
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Beltville Shell

Congratulates

the

Greenbelt News Review

on **60 Years**

of High Octane Service
to the community